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12/22/2017

NEWS RELEASE

UPDATE: Driver Identified

Date/Time: Thursday, December 21, 2017 @ 2:22 a.m.
Location: I-10 East Mile Marker 34
Vehicle 1: 2017 Freightliner, Red in color, OK 2XR775
Driver 1: Patrick Charles Van Fossen, McKinney, TX **(DECEASED)**
Passenger 1: Keserie Paredes, Van Alstyne, TX **(DECEASED)**
Vehicle 2: 2018 Great Dane Trailer, White in color, OK 4606MD
Vehicle 3: 2011 Jeep Compass Black in color, TX Buyer- 73J1761 (Parked)
Vehicle 4: 2016 Peterbuilt Red in color, MO- 98AS8L (Parked)
Vehicle 5: 2007 Walk Tanker Trailer, Silver in color, MO- 27A734 (Parked)

El PASO, Texas – The El Paso Police Department’s Special Traffic Investigations unit has released the name of the driver involved in the December 21, 2017 fatal traffic collision. STI has identified Patrick Van Fossen of McKinney, TX as the driver of the 2017 Freightliner. This investigation continue.

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History 12-21-2017

The El Paso Police Department’s Special Traffic Investigations unit responded to assist Mission Valley Patrol with a 5 vehicle collision at I-10 East MM #34. The preliminary investigation revealed that a construction vehicle was parked in the center median between I-10 E and I-10 W. The construction vehicle had a protruding conveyer belt that was sticking out 4 feet onto the I-10 East inside lane. Vehicle 4 & 5 were eastbound on the inside lane and struck the conveyer arm causing damage to the driver’s side mirror of each vehicle. Vehicle 4 & 5 pulled over onto the outside shoulder and both drives exited their vehicles. Vehicle 3 pulled over behind Vehicle 4 & 5 and exited their vehicle. Vehicle 1 & 2 were traveling East on the inside lane and struck the conveyer arm causing the arm to penetrate the cab, striking the driver and pushing him to the rear of the cab. The conveyer arm then ripped the sleeper berth off the cab causing the rear passenger (Keserie Paredes) to be ejected. Vehicle 1 & 2 continued East and veered right striking Vehicle 3, pushing it into Vehicle 5. Vehicle 1 driver then rolled out of the vehicle onto the roadway. The driver of Vehicle 1 and passenger Keserie Paredes suffered serious injuries and died at the scene.

This is the 51st and 52nd fatality of 2017 compared to 61 during this same time period in 2016.

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